

What is a learning commons?

A learning commons is a whole school approach to building a participatory learning community. The library learning commons is the physical and virtual collaborative learning hub of the school.

Leading Learning, CLA, 2014

This learning guide is designed for use by instructional leaders and professional learning communities or as a self-paced study to explore learning commons.



Use this learning guide after viewing the [LC Video Byte 1, Rethink Physical Space](#)

Synopsis: *In LC Video Byte 1 we examine re-thinking learning commons resources - physical spaces - to support participatory learning.*

Key understandings:

- Flexible, accessible learning spaces re-shape the LC.
- Maker spaces, lego walls, green screens, lots of books and other technology enliven spaces with flexi-furniture enabling many kinds of collaborative learning events and projects.
- Student involvement in re-designing the learning commons is vital and enriching.

Questions for Reflection and Discussion:

- What items can be resourced for re-thought learning commons physical space development for free?
 - Minimal cost?
 - Moderate Cost?
 - Complete makeover?

Additional resources:

Learning commons indicators for participatory learning design pp.19- 20, *Leading Learning*
<http://www.canadianschoollibraries.ca>

Learning Commons Design Manuals (Loertscher & Koechlin) *The Elementary School Learning Commons: A Manual* and *The Secondary School Learning Commons: A Manual*
<http://lmcsource.com/>

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